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and their truthfulness. It opens with a delightful picture of the country parson's life, designed to serve in some measure as a Preface to the twelve essays which follow. These essays, we are there told, "are nothing more than that which they are called, a country clergyman's *Recreations*. My solid work, and my first thoughts," the writer adds, "are given to that which is the business and the happiness of my life. But these Essays have led me into a field which to myself was fresh and pleasant. And I have always returned from them with increased interest to graver themes and trains of thought." Among them are chapters on "The Art of putting Things; being Thoughts on Representation and Misrepresentation," concerning "Work and Play," "The Moral Influence of the Dwelling," "Hurry and Leisure," "The Worries of Life, and how to meet them," and "Concerning Growing Old." To the discussion of all his themes the writer brings a large familiarity with books and men, a genial philosophy, and a kindly spirit. The result is a book which seems likely to secure for itself a permanent place in this department of literature. Certainly nothing better of its kind has appeared within our recollection; and there have been few books of miscellaneous essays so admirable in both matter and manner.

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10. — *The Life and Letters of Mrs. Emily C. Judson*. By A. C. KENDRICK, Professor of Greek Literature in the University of Rochester. New York: Sheldon & Co. 12mo. pp. 426.

It was a wonderful appointment of Providence, that Dr. Judson, than whom no missionary in modern times has dared or endured more bravely, should have married successively three women who stand in the foremost rank among Christian heroines. The unparalleled sufferings of the first Mrs. Judson, and the arduous apostolate exercised by the second, when the widow of the saintly Boardman, have become a part of the ecclesiastical history of our times. The third, though not called to such labors, perils, or hardships as fell to the lot of the others, manifested, on a less conspicuous stage, courage and fortitude fully equal to theirs. Her life was one protracted struggle. Born in penury, with surroundings unfavorable to mental culture, with a slender constitution, prematurely overburdened with cares for her poverty-stricken parents and family, often obliged to stave off utter destitution by exhausting toil, when she needed the retirement and comforts of the sick-chamber, — all the while conscious of powers that only craved development in order to place her honorably and usefully before the public, and of tastes and impulses that fitted her for intellectual pur-

suits alone,—she fought her way on with a truly masculine energy, yet with all the sensitiveness, delicacy, and reserve of a genuine woman; acquired at intervals and in fragments a highly finished education; grew, one could hardly say by what stages, into eminence as a writer both of verse and prose; and from what she deemed obscurity and neglect suddenly awoke to the knowledge that her pen was one of the recognized forces in the moral and religious world. She had just attained this position, when her writings attracted the notice of Dr. Judson (then in this country), who at once sought her acquaintance, asked her to be his wife, and took her with him on his return voyage to India. Her life there had at first all the usual trials and bereavements incident to her condition, and at a very early period it was hopelessly clouded over by the declining health, then by the perilous illness, then by the death of her husband. She returned to this country with a shattered constitution, and with the care of Dr. Judson's older children added to that of her own sole surviving child. Wasting rapidly with pulmonary consumption, she furnished Dr. Wayland with materials for his *Memoir of her husband*, busied herself in arrangements for the support and education of the children thrown upon her charge, conducted an extensive correspondence, was forced into a controversy with certain publishers who threatened to make the copyright of Dr. Wayland's *Memoir* useless to her family (for whose benefit it was designed) by the issue of a cheap and unauthorized memoir, and sank into her last sleep absolutely worn out in body by a career in which she had never known a resting-place or a moment of repose. While we have in Dr. Kendrick's narrative a detailed outline of her outward life, we have, for the most part in her own letters, a vivid portraiture of her spiritual nature, growing by what she suffered and overcame, enriched at every stage by her experience of trial and adversity, joyous and often jubilant except under the shadow of her one great grief, culminating with a more than earthly beauty as her last hour drew near. The volume is, in every respect, admirably compiled. The task was worthy of even Dr. Kendrick's distinguished reputation, and we are glad that he has given himself to it, mind and heart, and has produced a book honorable alike to the author and the subject.

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- 11.—*A Forest Hymn.* By WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT. With Illustrations by JOHN A. HOWS. New York: W. A. Townsend & Co. 1860. pp. 32.

WE suppose that we express an almost universal opinion, when we place this poem at the head of its class. Meditative devotion amidst